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Paper No. 12

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC  
P.O. Box 7037  
Atlanta GA 30357-0037

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**JUL 09 2003**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Ralph Mitchell Hungerpiller and Ronald C.  
Cagle  
Application No. 10/057,608  
Filed: January 24, 2002  
Attorney Docket No. R105 1010.1  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PROCESSING RETURNED MAIL

DECISION ON PETITION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f)

This is a decision on the petition filed on May 13, 2003, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f), to revive the above-identified application.

A grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(f) must be accompanied by:

- (1) Notification of the filing of an application in a foreign country or under a multinational treaty that requires 18 month publication<sup>1</sup>;
- (2) The petition fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(m), and;
- (3) A statement that the entire delay in filing the notice from the date that the notice was due under 35 U.S.C. §122(b)(2)(B)(iii) until the date the notice was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

On February 10, 2003, a Notice of Rescission of Nonpublication Request was filed with the Office. Unfortunately, notification of the filing of the international application did not accompany this filing.

Petitioner states that the instant nonprovisional application is the subject of an application filed in an international application on January 24, 2003. However, the United States Patent and

<sup>1</sup> See PTO/SB/36 and paragraph on PTO/SB/64a for further information. Both may be downloaded at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/forms/index.html>.

Trademark Office was unintentionally not notified of this filing within 45 days subsequent to the filing of the subject application in a foreign country.

In view of the above, this application became abandoned pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §1.22(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 C.F.R. §1.213(c) for failure to timely notify the Office of the filing of an application under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing.

37 C.F.R. §1.137(f) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the notice from the date that the notice was due under 35 U.S.C. §122(b)(2)(B)(iii) until the date the notice was filed was unintentional. Since the statement contained in the instant petition varies from the language required by 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f), the statement contained in the instant petition is being construed as the statement required by 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f) and petitioner must notify the Office if this is not a correct interpretation of the statement contained in the instant petition.

The petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f) is **GRANTED**.

Petitioner has submitted the notification of an international filing, paid the petition fee (which has been charged to petitioner's Deposit Account, as authorized in the petition), submitted a petition to expedite, and has made a statement which is being construed as the proper statement of unintentional delay.

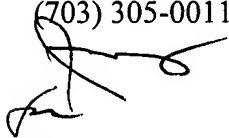
The instant petition has been found to be in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.137(f). Accordingly, the failure to timely notify the Office of a foreign or international filing within 45 days after the date of filing of such foreign or international application as provided by 35 U.S.C. §122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 C.F.R. §1.213(c) is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

The previous Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. §122(b)(2)(B)(i), filed with the original application papers, has been rescinded. A Notice Regarding Rescission of Nonpublication Request which sets forth the projected publication date of October 9, 2003 accompanies this decision on petition.

After this decision is mailed, the application will be forwarded to Technology Center 3600 for further processing.

The shortened statutory period for reply is being restarted as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning *this decision* should be directed to Attorney Paul Shanowski at (703) 305-0011.



Beverly Flanagan  
Supervisory Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
United States Patent and Trademark Office